

DANISH ELECTIONS

The Tax Reform Bill Will Be the Issue.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAY OF THE KING

Diplomats Present Credentials to King Edward.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS

COPENHAGEN, March 18.—Although the tax reform bill, which occasioned such political bitterness as almost to wreck the ministry, has been referred to a conference committee of the Folketing, it is not likely the measure will reach a final vote at the present session. The cabinet has abandoned the idea of dissolution, as the term of the Folketing expires early in April and new elections will be held for the following, or lower house. These will be fought on the tax reform bill issue. Both parties are making strong efforts to secure the agrarian vote.

Dowager Empress Alexander of Russia will arrive here tomorrow and will remain until after the celebration of the thirty-third anniversary of the birth of her father, King Christian IX.

The King and Queen of England were expected to be present at the celebration, but have postponed their visit until later in the year.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands and her consort are expected here shortly.

PRESENTED TO KING EDWARD.

Ambassadors and Ministers Assembled at Marlborough House.

LONDON, March 18.—United States Ambassador Choate and the other ambassadors and ministers to Great Britain presented their credentials to King Edward at Marlborough House at noon today.

Each member of the diplomatic corps arrived in a royal carriage drawn by two horses, and was attended by three royal servants attired in long court uniforms. All the diplomats wore levee dress, with orders and decorations, with the exception, of course, of Ambassador Choate, who wore ordinary evening dress.

The foreign secretary, Lord Lansdowne, introduced the visitors to the king, who was attired in a field marshal's uniform.

MET COOL RECEPTION.

Berlin Gossip Regarding Gen. von Werder's Russian Mission.

BERLIN, March 18.—Parliamentary circles relate that General von Werder, who was recently sent on a special mission to St. Petersburg, this time met with a cool reception at the Russian capital, and that the private mission with which Emperor William entrusted him and which was intended to explain away all misunderstandings that have arisen lately, practically failed. It is understood that Count Lamsdorf, Russian minister of foreign affairs, also keenly questioned General von Werder regarding the German agitation in favor of the annexation of Austria's German-speaking provinces.

DEFIANT STUDENTS.

Trouble in the University at Buda Pesth.

BUDA PESTH, March 18.—Serious disturbances have occurred here between the university officials and the students in consequence of orders issued by the minister of instruction for the removal of all crosses from the lecture rooms of the university. In spite of this prohibition when the rooms were opened this morning the professors discovered that the students had gained entrance and nailed crosses to the walls. The officials commenced to remove the religious emblems, but were hustled and insulted by the students. Some of the latter, however, supported the officials, and violent scenes ensued and the lectures were suspended. The matter will be discussed in parliament.

CONFESSIONS WERE EXTORTED.

Sensation Caused in a Trial of Suspected Bulgarians.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 18.—At the first day of the trial of the nineteen Bulgarians accused of belonging to the revolutionary committee at Sofia, and of fomenting disorder in Salonica, Monastir and Kiosovo, recently begun at Salonica, a sensation was occasioned by a declaration by one of the accused that the confessions previously made by them were extorted by the use of the bastinado and by other ill-treatment to which they were subjected while in prison. They now deny the charges brought against them.

CHINESE RAILWAY OPENED.

Troops Review as a Feature of the Celebration.

PEKIN, March 18.—The railway between Peking and Chan-Sing-Ou was opened Saturday in the presence of the French and Belgian ministers. There was a review of the troops as a feature of the celebration. The court ceremonial and the review of the ministers was the subject of conversation, but nothing definite was decided upon.

General Chaffee and H. J. Spillers, the United States charge d'affaires, examined property adjoining the legation, suitable for barracks, and capable of housing 150 men.

"DEFENDER OF THE FAITH."

King Edward's Right to the Title Disputed.

LONDON, March 18.—In the house of commons today Mr. Wm. Redmond, Irish nationalist, gave notice that he would take an early opportunity of informing King Edward that he had no earthly right to the title of Defender of the Faith. The argument came up on Mr. Redmond's question as to whether the title would appear on the coins, and if so, what particular faith was meant. The chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, remained unalterable. He said that the title remained on the coins, and that the king's titles remained on the coins. Then Mr. Redmond protested and was called to order.

University Crews on the Thames.

LONDON, March 18.—The Oxford and Cambridge crews today began their first four weeks' work over the Putney-Mortlake course, preparing for the annual race between these two universities which is to be decided Saturday, March 30. The weather was bitterly cold and a northeasterly wind was blowing.

The Cambridge crew did not always keep the line, stroke side and bow side often differing.

Oxford's feathering was too high, being quite three inches clear of the water, and the strokes were pulled through.

Boston Publisher's Death.

BOSTON, March 18.—Patrick Donohoe, publisher of the Pilot, died this morning. He was ninety years old yesterday.

THE OBSERVATORY TROUBLE

CAPT. DAVIS HAS NOT APPLIED FOR SEA DUTY.

THE DIFFICULTY INVOLVES THE OLD QUESTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENCY OF THE INSTITUTION.

The report that Capt. Charles H. Davis, superintendent of the naval observatory, who recently filed charges against Prof. Brown, director of the Nautical Almanac, had applied for sea duty is denied by Secretary Long. It is nevertheless considered not improbable that he will be assigned to the command of a ship during the coming summer. Such an assignment, however, would have no connection with the controversy with Prof. Brown. Captain Davis, at the close of the Spanish war, during which he was in command of the Dixie, was appointed superintendent of the observatory and has had shore duty for about two years and a half. The answer of Prof. Brown to the charges made against him had not been received at the Navy Department this morning. Captain Davis is a brother-in-law of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts.

Not a Merely Personal Affair.

It appears that the trouble at the naval observatory is not altogether of a merely personal nature. It involves the old question whether the observatory should be under the superintendency of a line officer of the navy or of a professional astronomer. The latter view has been held by the astronomical profession at large and also by such Secretaries as Secretaries Tracy and Secretary Long. This view is grounded so much upon any possibility of finding qualifications in the line of the navy or upon any dissatisfaction with the incumbent, as upon the fact that the frequent changes of duty to which naval officers are subject at short intervals prevent continuity of administration, and also upon the general principle that the appointment of a professional astronomer should be made from persons in or out of the naval service without restriction to any class, and should secure the most accomplished and competent astronomer that can be found anywhere.

Undoubtedly the well-known views of the present Secretary have led the astronomers to feel that the observatory should be under the superintendency of a professional astronomer. Among them it appears that Prof. Brown has been an aspirant for the place, though it is equally well known that the Secretary has not regarded him as having such qualifications for it as would commend his appointment to the astronomical profession. It further appears that Captain Davis, the present superintendent, has not objected to this appointment on the part of Prof. Brown, but has strenuously objected to the manner in which he has conducted his campaign, and has charged him with intrigue and misrepresentation and neglect of duty.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY SANGER.

He Took Active Charge of His Office Today.

Assistant Secretary Sanger of the War Department has returned from a brief visit to New York where he went to close up some private business, and took active charge of his new office this morning. He said that he had not announced any policy, the fact being that he had not had time to fully consider his new duties and decide upon a definite plan of action. He said that he would like it understood in the beginning that he was simply the assistant to the secretary, and that it would be his duty to execute policies formulated by the head of the department and not to make policies of his own. Although he was naturally interested in the civil service of the department, he said, he said a mistake to assume that he had already concluded to recommend any changes in the system of keeping the efficiency records and determining the classes to which clerks should be assigned.

A VIGOROUS PROTEST.

Minister Loomis Instructed in the Case of Mr. Biaz.

The Department of State, through Minister Loomis, has already lodged a most vigorous protest to the Venezuelan government against further interference with Mr. Biaz, the United States consular agent at Barcelona, Venezuela. It knows nothing of the last reported infringement of his liberty, but it is presumed that the affair is connected directly with the troubles which led to the first protest. Ignorance of Biaz is not a citizen of the United States, a fact that might add to the difficulty which our government may experience in protecting him, but it is nevertheless determined to do so. He was born in St. Thomas, and is a Danish citizen, so far as is known here, but, having an exequatur issued by the Venezuelan government recognizing him as a United States consular agent, the State Department has decided that he is entitled to the protection of the United States government. It appears that he is engaged in business and has been in trouble with the Venezuelan military by reason of his refusal to collect a forced loan from him. More than a month ago the State Department forced the Venezuelan government to release him, and to represent to the Venezuelan government that these annoying interferences with our officials must cease, but so far no results have appeared.

BODIES FROM CUBA.

Many Will Be Buried at Arlington.

The transport McClelland has arrived at New York from Cuban ports with the remains of 131 soldiers and civilians who died in Cuba since the American occupation. Most of these bodies will be brought to this city for interment at the Arlington cemetery. Among the bodies on the McClelland was that of Major M. R. Peterson, who died of yellow fever October last. His widow committed suicide upon hearing of her husband's death, and her remains were also brought home on the transport. They will be buried at Columbus, Ohio.

ISTHMIAN CANAL MATTERS.

Secretary Hay Has a Conference With Senator Morgan.

Secretary Hay had a long conference today with Senator Morgan respecting isthmian canal matters and the advisability of reopening negotiations for a treaty with Great Britain on the subject. The Secretary is losing no opportunity of acquainting himself with the views of senators on this important subject, and the conference today with Senator Morgan is only one of nearly a dozen the Secretary has had on the same subject with leading senators and representatives since the adjournment of the Fifty-sixth Congress.

Passed for Dental Surgeons.

The examining board of dental surgeons has reported to Surgeon General Sternberg that Clarence E. Lauderdale of New York and S. Davis Boak of West Virginia have successfully passed the examination for appointment as dental surgeons in the army. Of this number five have been already appointed and two designated for appointment, leaving twenty-three places to be provided for.

Bank Dividends Declared.

The controller of the currency has declared dividends in favor of the creditors of insolvent national banks as follows: Fifteen per cent. First National Bank of Little Rock, Ark.; 10 per cent. First National Bank of Carthage, N. Y.

Personal Mention.

Colonel Ward of army headquarters is acting as adjutant general today in the temporary absence of General Corbin.

Among those registered at Hotel Chamberlain, Old Point Comfort, Va., are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Friedlander, Mr. Salin Behrend and his sister, Miss Isabelle A. Behrend.

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THE SUPREME COURT

PORTO RICAN DECISION NOT EXPECTED TILL AFTER RECESS.

Cases Acted Upon Today—Minnesota's Oleomargarine Law Not Determined.

Chief Justice Fuller of the United States Supreme Court today announced that the court would take a recess from next Monday for a fortnight. The opinion is quite general that the decision of the court in the Porto Rican and Philippine questions will not be announced until after the conclusion of that recess.

The court announced today, through Justice Shiras, its opinion in the case of Li Sines, a Chinaman, who was taken into custody at Malone, N. Y., in 1897, on the ground that he had secured admission to the United States on fraudulent pretext. Li Sines left this country in 1898, having previously to that time resided in the state of New Jersey. He carried with him a certificate from the Chinese consul at New York, stating that he was a merchant. His arrest was made by a merchant laborer that he was not a merchant, but a laborer. The United States commissioner, before whom he was first taken, investigated the matter and found the charge to be based upon fact. He held, therefore, that Li was improperly in the United States, and issued a decree that the man should be deported. The Chinaman then took the case into the United States courts on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. The opinions of those courts were uniformly against the Chinaman, and his opinions were confirmed by today's decision. The principal contention in the case was that the decision of the collector of customs admitting the Chinaman to the first instance rendered it incompetent for the United States commissioner to review the case, but the court held differently. Li Sines will be deported.

Bonds Were Invalid.

The court today rendered its opinion in the case of the commissioners of Wilkes county, N. C., against Coler, involving the validity of bonds issued by Wilkes county in aid of the Northwestern North Carolina